

Response

Claims 20, 21, and 23 are pending in the application. Claims 20, 21, and 23 are subject to election of species requirement. Applicants are respectfully requesting the Examiner to enter new amendments 24-29. The Examiner states that this application contains claims directed to the following genera of patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

- a. first oligomer
- b. second oligomer
- c. water present or not present; and
- d. if water is present, at least one surfactant.

Applicants elect species under Examiner's requirement as follows:

Genera	Elected Species	Claims readable thereon
first oligomer	oligomer prepared from a single monomer, butyl acrylate	20, 21, 24, 25
second oligomer	oligomer prepared from a single monomer, butyl acrylate	20, 21, 24, 25
water present, or not present	water not present	20, 21, 24, 25
if water present, at least one surfactant	--- (note: water not present)	

Applicants respectfully note that both the elected first oligomer and the elected second oligomer derive from a single monomer. This choice is in recognition that butyl acrylate based oligomers bearing terminal unsaturation and corresponding oligomers bearing no terminal unsaturation may exist in the same mixture. In fact butyl acrylate based oligomers bearing terminal unsaturation and absent terminal unsaturation may be made simultaneously during a single reaction sequence.

Conclusions

Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the Examiner to:

- (1) enter new claims 24-29;
- (2) enter the election of species;
- (3) pass the claims to allowance.

Please direct all further correspondence to the undersigned, as agent of record.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard R. Cliekeman", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard R. Cliekeman

Agent for Applicants

Registration No. # 51,329

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ROHM AND HAAS COMPANY
100 Independence Mall West
Philadelphia, PA 19106-2399
Telephone: (215) 592-6758